

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1A

SUBJECT

Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen HF  
Production Difficulties and Shortages

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27 April 1953

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EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
RAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. About 15 or 20 women were added during the last week in February in the grid-winding shop of the HF Werk, Berlin-Oberschoenweide. The addition of a third shift in the shop has been proposed. Until now, only two shifts have been working.
2. The average daily production of grids has risen from 30,000 or 35,000 pieces to about 42,000.
3. Material shortages become more noticeable from day to day. The chief shortages are of copper-nickel coated wire, and cathode nickel "G" in tube and strip form. These materials have come from West Germany, but now there are no deliveries from there. The Hettstedt Rolling Mill (Buntmetallwalzwerk Hettstedt) is trying to manufacture these products with the raw materials available. The Hettstedt plant, however, lacks the special machines needed to produce these precision goods and also lacks properly trained personnel.
4. Other shortage materials are thorium metal powder (sic), zircon dioxide, molybdenum (Mo) sheet, and "P2" sheet. The Halbzeugwerke Auerhammer are trying to manufacture the "P2" sheets, but according to reports it will be half a year before they can be produced in the quality desired. Here again the necessary equipment and experienced personnel are lacking.
5. The material supply situation in general is growing worse. Since interzonal trade has been suspended and illegal East-West trade has almost disappeared, the plant is laboring under increasing shortages in materials; steadily mounting production difficulties are daily noted.
6. At the beginning of March 1953, there were 6,700 employees at the plant; since that time 300 more have been added. The norms for the plant have been raised to such a degree that additional manpower had to be engaged.

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